

THE BUILDING IN HYDE PARK.

At a meeting recently held in Bakewell, Mr. Paxton gave the following particulars of his intended building. He said it would be 2,100 feet long by 400 broad. The centre aisle would be 120 feet broad, or 10 feet wider than the Conservatory at Chatsworth. When he commenced designing this building he knew that so vast a structure as this must necessarily be made as simple as possible in its details, else it would be impossible to carry it out. He therefore endeavoured to make it up with as few details as possible. The glass and its iron supports comprised the whole structure. The columns were precisely the same throughout the building, and would fit every part: the same might be said of each of the bars; and every piece of glass would be of the same size—namely, four feet long. No numbering or marking would be required, and the whole would be put together like a piece of machinery. Mr. Paxton explained that the water is brought down valleys on the roof, and thence down the columns; that the water in no instance has farther than 12 feet to run before it is delivered into the valleys or gutters; and that the whole is so constructed as to carry the water outside, and the condensed water inside. The building is divided into broad and narrow compartments, and by tying these together there is little for the cross-ties of the centre to carry. The building is entirely divided into twenty-four places—in short, every thing runs to twenty-four, so that the work is made to square and fit, without any small detail being left to carry out. The number of columns, 18 feet long, is 6,024; there are 3,000 gallery bearers; 1,245 wrought-iron girders; 45 miles of sash bars; and 1,073,760 feet of glass to cover the whole. The gallery of the building would be 24 feet wide, and would extend a distance of nearly six miles. Now if, after the purposes of the exhibition are answered, it was thought desirable to let the building remain—and he sincerely hoped it would not be pulled down and shipped to America—if they chose to let it remain, as to what a purpose it might be applied. There might be made an excellent carriage drive round the interior, as well as a road for equestrians, with the centre tastefully laid out and planted, and then there would be nearly six miles of room in the galleries for a promenade for the public. With regard to the ventilation and the rays of light, he would say that the former was a very peculiar part of the plan. The whole building four feet round the bottom will be filled with louver, or "luffer" boards, so placed as to admit air, but exclude rain. On the inside of that there will be a canvas to move up and down, and in very hot weather it may be watered and the interior kept cool. The top part of the centre building is put up almost entirely for the purposes of ventilation; and he thought it would be found that, if he had erred at all in respect of the means of ventilation, there would be found too much rather than too little. By covering the greater part of the building with canvas, a gentle light would be thrown over the whole building; and the whole of the glass at the top of the northern side of the building would give a direct light to the interior.

This, it will be remembered, is the projector's own statement, not ours.

BUILDING WORKS IN IRELAND.

The Poor-Law Commissioners are erecting the following union workhouses through the country, according to drawings furnished by their architect, Mr. George Wilkinson: viz., Killybegs, county Clare, to cost about 5,000*l.*; Skull, about 5,000*l.*;—Clonakilty, about 5,200*l.*—both in the county of Cork. Also one at Dromore West, cost about 4,500*l.*; and at Newport, county Mayo, cost about 5,100*l.* There have been plans, &c. furnished, and tenders received by Mr. John Louch, architect, for additions to St. Mathias's Church, Dublin. The style of the present building is Grecian. There is also a school-house in connection with this church in progress of erection: cost, when complete, will be about 1,000*l.*; the drawings, &c. have been furnished by the same architect.

The Society of Ancient Concerts are erecting additions to their concert-rooms, Dublin,

SKN LAMP
MANCHESTER

George Tinsell, Architect

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